



<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b> <b>VIA EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 188551785 US SENT TO:</b> <b>Mail Stop: 313(c)</b> <b>Commissioner for Patents</b> <b>P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b>
--

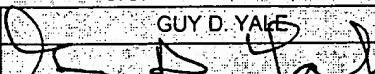
Application Number	09/923,288
Filing Date	August 6, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hubert T. McGovern
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	Jori Schiffman
Attorney Docket Number	OMG/129/US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

RECEIVED

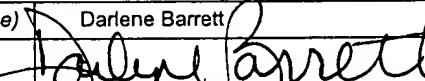
1.	Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114	FEB 25 2004
a.	<input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____ (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered) ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____ iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	OFFICE OF PETITIONS
b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted Information Disclosure Statement iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
2.	Miscellaneous	
a.	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
3.	Fees	The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 16-2563 i. <input type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Any other fee required 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 (fee not included)</u>	
b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of <u>\$770.00 (for RCE</u> is enclosed	
c.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment by Credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) Warning: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide Credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.	

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	GUY D. YALE	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,125
Signature		Date	February 25, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to: Mail Stop: 313(c), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Express Mail No. EV 188551785 US on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Darlene Barrett	Date	February 25, 2004
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

02/27/2004 RCE1801

770.00

01 FEB 1801

**RCE Submission Under 37 C.F.R. 1.114  
Examining Group 3679  
Attorney Docket Number: OMG/129/US**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Hubert T. McGovern and Thomas P. Druschel

Serial No.09/923,288

Examiner: Jori Schiffman

Group Art Unit: 3679

Filing Date: August 6, 2001

For: DECK SCREWS SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COMPOSITE LUMBER

**RECEIVED**

MAIL STOP 313(c)  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**FEB 25 2004**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Sir:

**SUBMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.114, AMENDMENT AND REPLY  
FILED WITH  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

As a submission under 37 CFR §1.114, and as a request to withdraw this application from issuance, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following Amendment, and Remarks.

**Proposed amendments and the present status of the claims**, begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.

Express Mail No. EV 188551785 US